

THE CHURCH ~ A HOLY PLACE

When you enter the church building as the "House of Worship," you are entering into the Great Throne Room of the "King of Kings" as His subjects and His soldiers. The "King of Kings," Jesus Christ, is enthroned on the Holy Altar and all the angels, prophets, saints and the Most Holy Mother of God are present. His soldiers should be attentive and standing at attention. No one in the presence of the "king of Kings" would sit with his legs crossed, or his hands in his pockets, or chewing gum, or looking at his watch because to do any of these things would be disrespectful. The only proper disposition a soldier can have before his commander is that of reverence which is indicated by a bowed head, a submissive heart and prayer.

WELCOME – AND A FEW WORDS ABOUT COMMUNION...

We warmly welcome all visitors and seekers in our midst today, trusting that your experience here will be an uplifting and enriching one. The Greek Orthodox Churches are the ancient and native Christian communities of the biblical world, with centers in the Holy Lands, Syria, Egypt and Asia Minor, and by extension in Greece, Cyprus and throughout the world. Like the ancient Christians, we engage the whole person, heart, mind and all senses in Divine Worship. This experience has been so powerful to seekers in the past that it was often said "We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth. We knew only that there God dwelt among human beings." (Russian Primary Chronicle) That communion experience of heaven on earth and God in our midst forms the heart of all Orthodox worship. It culminates in the sharing of Holy Communion, which not only unites us with the Divine, but also expresses the deep unity in faith and life between all Orthodox believers. Since Holy Communion expresses that deep unity in belief and practice alike, it is reserved for observant Orthodox Christians. This does not mean, however, that non-Orthodox are 'excluded' – rather, the Orthodox choose not to make an external display of unity when actual unity does not exist. While working to restore the full communion that did exist in antiquity, today we offer the sign of the blessed bread at the service's conclusion as a symbolic gift of hospitality and growing unity that is offered to all present. If you would like to learn more about the Orthodox way of life, or have any questions about worship or Holy Communion, please approach Fr. Michael or one of the clergy following services. Thank you for joining us, and again, we welcome you all.

Sunday, June 17, 2018

The Epistle reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 5:1-10 Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

The Gospel According to Matthew 6:22-33

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need the mall. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
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(412) 833-3355

Fr. Michael Kallaur
Fr. Dan Korba
Dn. Frank Dickos
www.holycrosspgh.org

Happy Father's Day!



*Coffee Hour is sponsored
by Philoptochos.*



*Please call the church office to host
a coffee hour. Many open dates available all summer.*

This Week at Holy Cross

- **Camp Nazareth Week One** grades 2-4
- **Village Festival Clean-up** continues all week. Stop by for a while to lend a hand putting things away!

Monday	6:30pm Paraclesis (No Paraclesis or Bible Study until August)
Tuesday	7pm Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	5pm Vespers

Please bring any toiletry items for FOCUS Pittsburgh JOY Outreach Project. FOCUS Pgh is asking for Shampoo, Conditioner, Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Brushes, Combs... (Travel Samples are Welcome as well) There is a bin in the front of the church. JOY will be delivering on Saturday, June 30th. Thank you for remembering those less fortunate...



**2018 ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN
VACATION CHURCH
SCHOOL**

AT HOLY CROSS

BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO LEARN GOD'S WORD AT V.C.S.!

VCS is dedicated to teaching our young children about Orthodox Christianity in a fun and exciting atmosphere. It is an extension of the Sunday School experience that can greatly enhance a child's sense of belonging to the church, while providing children with an opportunity to make lifelong friends in the church community.

Activities include daily skits illustrating lesson, brief classroom instruction, junior forum, religious music lessons, hands-on crafts relating to lesson, recreation time, snack & social time.

This year's theme is:

SAINTS ALIVE

Monday, July 30, 2018 ~ Friday, August 3, 2018

9:00 am ~12:00 Noon

**Monday, July 30, children should arrive at 8:30 am*

*Welcoming all children age 3 years through entering 6th grade
Older students, parents, interested adults needed to volunteer*

Nominal registration fee per child of

\$20 if received by June 30

\$30 if received by July 15th

\$40 if received after July 15th

Please register early so we can adequately prepare for snacks and crafts!

*Make checks payable to Holy Cross VCS and send to:
Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church 123 Gilkeson Road,
Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228*

*Should you need financial or transportation assistance, please contact
Fr. Michael Kallaur (Holy Cross) at (412) 833-3355*

*If you have any questions, or in case of emergency during VCS,
call (412) 833-3355*

*Registration forms available in the narthex or online at
<http://holycrosspgh.org/ministries/vacation/>*